

*Remarks**Remarks*

Claims 2-48 are pending in this application. Claims 2-48 stand rejected.

Claim 2 was objected to because of small informalities. These informalities have been addressed in this response. Claims 2-4, 8-15, 17, 20, 22-23, 25-29, 33-39, 41, and 45-47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0083266 to Comstock et al in view of U.S. Patent Publication No.2002/0072892 to Shirley. Claims 5 and 30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Comstock and Shirley in light of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2002/0198978 to Watkins. Claims 6-7 and 31-32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Comstock and Shirley in light of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0084056 to DeAnna. Claims 16, 18-19, 21, 40, and 42-44 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Comstock and Shirley in light of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2004/0042547 to Coleman. Claims 24 and 48 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as obvious over Comstock and Shirley in light of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2003/0055922 to Kim.

Claims 2-4, 25, 26, and 29 have all been amended to more particularly point out Applicants' invention. Support for these changes to claims 2 and 25 may be found in the specification at least at pages 33, ln. 20 to 34 ln. 9 and in Figs. 1 and 3a. Support for claims 4 and 29 can be found at page 50, ln. 11 to page 51, ln. 5. Claims 2 and 25 are in independent form.

Applicants have carefully considered the positions of the Examiner, amended the claims accordingly, and respectfully submit that claims 2-48 are in condition for examination and

allowance. The present invention is directed to a remote management system for managing serial devices having a serial interface, remote servers having keyboard, video, and mouse ("KVM") interfaces, and one or more remote power supplies having a power supply interface. The system comprising a computer workstation including a keyboard, cursor control device and video display, at least one remote server including a KVM interface, at least one remote serial device including a serial interface, and a remote management unit.

The remote management unit is coupled to the workstation and contains at least a KVM interface for connecting to at least one remote server, a serial interface for directly connecting to at least one remote serial device and a power interface for connecting to a power supply interface. The remote unit also contains communication means for providing bi-directional communication between the remote management unit and the workstation. The remote management unit enables switching the communications to and from the computer workstation between the KVM interface, the serial interface and the power interface.

In contrast, Comstock teaches a system, apparatus, and method for managing media streams in a multimedia conferencing system according to media roles. Comstock does not contemplate a general purpose KVM system, but rather the use of a computer with a keyboard and mouse as part of a user interface to performs, and is limited to, specific functions in a multimedia conferencing system (see Paragraph 34). Comstock's user interface does not contemplate the viewing of a remote server's video output as if a user was local. Further, Comstock does not contemplate the control of generalized "serial devices" but rather specific types of media inputs or displays (see Paragraph 32). In addition, Comstock does not contemplate a general purpose remote management unit. Rather, Comstock describes a Multipoint Control Unit (MCU) to be used with its invention. An MCU is a specialized device

commonly used to bridge videoconferencing connections, and not a general technique of establishing remote control of servers or serial devices, wherein such remote control is as if the user was locally controlling.. Furthermore, Applicant's respectfully disagree with the Examiner's argument that Comstock at ¶¶ 20 and 21 teaches or discloses that a workstation controls a remote power source. Indeed, Comstock specifically at ¶¶20 and 21, and in general is silent about controlling remote power sources as disclosed in the present invention.

Shirley teaches a method and system for converting the output of a communications port (e.g., a serial port or a USB port) from a server into video signals representing the output of a terminal using a KVM switch. Specifically, Shirley teaches taking the serial output from a remote server and inputting that signal into a converter acting as a terminal emulator. To clarify, Shirley teaches that upon receiving characters from the communications port, the system interprets the characters as terminal emulation commands and internally generates a representation of what a resulting terminal screen would look like. From that internal (digital) representation, the system produces analog outputs representing the terminal screen. The analog outputs are output on the monitor attached to the KVM switch. Sheryl, however, does not teach control of a separate serial device connected to a remote unit nor the ability of the a remote unit to switch between a serial interface input and a KVM interface input. Accordingly, Comstock and Shirley does not render obvious claims 2, 8-15, 17, 22-23, 25-27, 33-39, 41, and 45-47.

Watkins teaches a system utilizing a remote control unit to remotely control and monitor remote devices and data. Watkins fails to teach or disclose, however, a remote management unit that simultaneously connects to devices with serial interfaces and devices with KVM interfaces, and the ability to switch the communications path from between the remote management unit and the serial device or the KVM device.

DeAnna teaches a lightweight application server for use on portable or embedded devices that includes an application manager and services containers. It does not teach a remote management unit simultaneously connected to serial and KVM devices with the ability to switch seamlessly between the two.

Coleman teaches a method and apparatus for digitizing and compressing video signals for transmission between a remotely located computer and a host or local computer. The digitization and compression method and apparatus is capable of dividing the frame buffers into cells and comparing image data from previously captured frame buffers to create synchronized video signals and transmit the video signals over an extended range by limiting the portions of the transmission bandwidth of pixel data transferred between the remote computer and the local computer. Nothing in Coleman teaches the limitations of the present invention.

Finally, Kim, fails to teach a remote management unit simultaneously connected to serial and KVM devices with the ability to switch between the two.

None of the art of record teaches a system that combines serial access, KVM access, and power access into a single remote management unit and allows a user to switch between controlling a serial device such as a router or certain power supplies and a KVM device such as the majority of servers. For at least these reasons, it is believed clear that Claim 2 is allowable over the cited references. Independent 25 contains similar limitations as those recited in Claim 2. Accordingly, it is believed that Claim 25 is allowable over the art of record for at least the same reasons set forth above with respect to Claim 2.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for at least the same

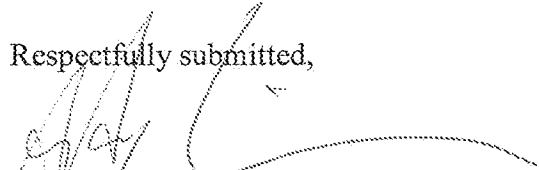
reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration or reconsideration, as the case maybe, of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application. If, however, there are any unresolved issues or fees, it is requested that the Examiner contact Applicants' representative via telephone so that such issues can be quickly resolved. If there are any fees due the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 03-3839 for any required fees.

Correspondence

No fee is believed due by this amendment. A petition for a three month extension and the fee of \$1110.00 is filed herewith. Please address all correspondence to the correspondent address for **Customer No. 26345 of Intellectual Docket Administrator, Gibbons P.C.**, One Gateway Center, Newark, NJ 07102. Telephone calls should be made to Andrew M. Grodin at (973) 596-4553 and fax communications should be sent directly to him at (973) 639-8355.

Respectfully submitted,



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